

The President's Daily Brief

15 June 1971

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Soyuz 11 mission seems to be proceeding smoothly.
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Hostility toward East Pakistani refugees is growing
in northeastern India. (Page 2)

Unusually heavy rains in the Laos panhandle have dis-
rupted the Communist supply operations. (Page 3)

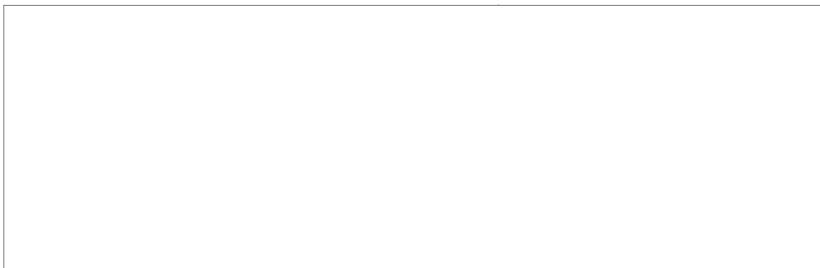
There may be violent demonstrations in Japan when the
Okinawan reversion treaty is signed on Thursday.
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USSR

The Soyuz 11 crew is encountering few difficulties as it begins the second week aboard the space station Salyut. The cosmonauts appear to be concentrating on checking out onboard systems and conducting related spaceflight experiments.

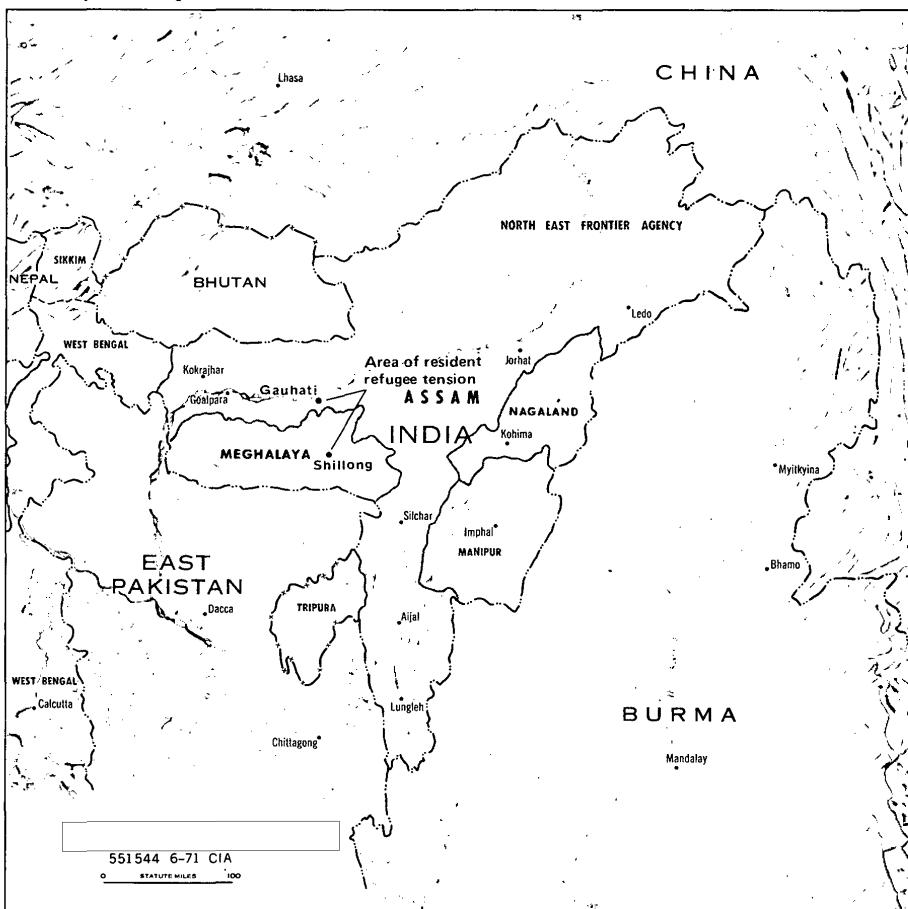


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There is still no indication of the planned duration of the Soyuz 11 mission; thus far there has been no evidence that the Soviets will launch another spacecraft in the immediate future.

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Hostility Growing Toward East Pakistani Refugees



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INDIA

Hostility toward East Pakistani refugees is growing among tribal residents of northeastern India, according to the Indian press. At the root of this hostility is fear that the refugees will ultimately refuse repatriation and permanently alter the area's customary ways of life. The government is attempting to ease the situation by moving thousands of refugees out of the more congested border areas in the northeast to Gauhati in Assam whence they will be sent on to less crowded locations.

Northeast India is largely populated by non-Hindu tribal peoples who have traditionally resisted domination by the minority Hindus. They have also resented the more or less steady flow of East Pakistani and other nontribal migrants--both Hindus and Muslims--who have entered their area in recent years. There have already been reports of near riots in Assam and neighboring Meghalaya, caused by the current influx of refugees from East Pakistan, and there may be more trouble some days from now when the refugee airlift--using four US-operated C-130s--begins to bring additional refugees into Assam from badly overcrowded Tripura.

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NOTES

Indochina: Unusually heavy rains have disrupted the movement of Communist supplies in the Laos panhandle. In a seven-day period ending 9 June, up to 15 inches of rain--the amount normally expected for the entire month--fell in parts of the panhandle.

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[redacted] since early June [redacted] extensive segments of road washed out or flooded at water crossings. In spite of these difficulties, most logistic units show no sign of returning to North Vietnam during the rainy season. Instead, they are making every effort to keep the roads in repair and to continue the movement of supplies.

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Japan: The National Police fear that the largest and most violent demonstrations in some time may break out when the Okinawan reversion agreement is signed on Thursday. Demonstrators, who oppose the agreement on grounds that it will allow too great a residual US presence, are expected to employ "urban guerrilla" tactics, including transportation disruptions and mass sitdowns. The radical organizers will have difficulty generating much popular support, however, because the general public, despite some misgivings, is reasonably satisfied with the accord.

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